not furnish the required data/infor-mation, their liabilities would be assessed on the basis of whatever data becomes available from which ever source.

Liability in respect of Dexamethasone

5824. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministrsy had failed to determine the liabilty of all the companies, other than M/s. Merind, in respect of Dex-amethansone and its formulations;

(b) what are the products, mark up and prices thereof at the time of commecement of DPCO, 1979 and on what price of the bulk drug Dexamethasone were the prices of formulations based;

(c) when were the prices of bulk drug and formulations reduced for each producers under DPCO 1979 and why did they not apply for reduction in price of formulations when the bulk drug was reduced; and

(d) whether it is a fact that producers have been overcharging the consumer and why has the Ministry failed to calculate their liability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) For the purpose of determining liability in respect of bulk drug Dexamethasone under Para 7(2) of DPCO, 1979 the notices were issued to companies manufacturing formulations based on ■this drug to submit data/information. The liability in respect of Mls. Wyeth Lebs. has also been provisionally computed and notice has been sent to the company to deposit the amount into DPEA. The remaining companies have been aisked to provide the re. quiste be data/information so that the am its of liability can be computed. failing which the liabilities will be computed and communicated to the companies on the basis of available in, formation from what ever source.

Fertilizer Plants runing in Deficit

5825. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the fertilizer plants are running in deficit;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what corrective measures Government have taken to check the de. ficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Among the central public sector undertakings en. gaged in the manufacture of fertilizers, the following have been incurring losses:

(i) Hindustan Fertilizers Corpo-ration Ltd. (HFC)

(ii) Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI)

(iii) Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL).

(iv) Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL)

(b) The main reason tor the losses suffered by HFC and FCI is low capacity utilisation due to design [equip. ment deficiencies frequent equipment break downs, prolonged power cuts, ageing of the plants, etc. The main reasons for the losses incurred by PPCL and PPL are reduction in off. take due to increase in the price of the phosphatic fertilizers following decontrol and higher cost of production vis-a-vis the price of imported DAI, PPL has also been burdened with heavy interest on Government loans.